

# 30<sup>th</sup> Annual ASPIRA Luncheon



**Wednesday, March 21, 2007  
The Holiday Inn North  
160 Frontage Rd. Newark, NJ**



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on their 30<sup>th</sup> Annual Luncheon

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ASPIRA Inc. of New Jersey  
30th Annual Luncheon

March 21, 2007  
Holiday Inn, Newark, NJ

# ASPIRA INC. OF NEW JERSEY

## 30<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL LUNCHEON

### Program

Welcome	Carlos J. Alma Chairperson, Board of Directors
Opening Remarks	Ivan Quervalú, Ph. D., MSW President and CEO
Invocation	Rev. Jack Martin St. Mary's Church, Elizabeth, NJ
Lunch	
Dance Troupe	Ivan Quervalú, Ph.D. MSW
Introduction of Master of Ceremonies	Ivan Quervalu, Ph.D., MSW
Ramon Zayas Anchor, Weekend Edition WNJU's "Noticiero" Telemundo	
Keynote Presentation	Ramon Zayas Telemundo
Governor Jon Corzine State of New Jersey	
Proclamation to ASPIRA of NJ	
Senator Robert Singer District 30, New Jersey	
Student Presentation	
Deldaliza Gerez Vice President ASPIRA Club Federation William Dickinson HS, Jersey City	

**Presentation of Awards**

**Mercedes Valle, Ed.D.  
Chairperson  
Luncheon Planning Committee**

**Community Service Award**

**Ms. Miryam (Gaby) Rinkerman  
Director, Paterson Community Technology Center**

**Volunteer Service Award**

**Ms. Alcelia Goñez  
Volunteer at ASPIRA, Vineland Office**

**Presentation of Scholarships**

**Ramon Zayas and Ivan Quervalu**

**Antonia Pantoja Founder's Scholarship**

**Jose Ginarte Scholarship Fund**

**First Bank Americano and  
First American Insurance Scholarship Fund**

**Robert Santana Charitable Gift Fund**

**McDonalds-HACER Program**

**Alfredo Santiago Scholarship**

**Pepsi Cola Scholarship**

**International Student Scholarship**

**Academic Excellence Scholarship**

**Closing Remarks**

**Ivan Quervalú, Ph.D., MSW**

**Music by**

**Antonio Serrano Quartet**





# ASPIRA, Inc. OF NEW JERSEY

ESSEX COUNTY CENTER

390 BROAD STREET, NEWARK, NEW JERSEY 07104

PHONE (973) 484-7554

FAX (973) 484-0184

March 21, 2007

Dear Friends of ASPIRA

Welcome to the 30<sup>th</sup> Annual ASPIRA Luncheon. On behalf of my colleagues on the Board of Directors, and the staff of ASPIRA Inc. of New Jersey, we thank you for participating at our annual luncheon as well as our other activities during this past year.

Your support for this luncheon and the past year's events once again is testimony of the great need for continued services to our youth in New Jersey. With corporate sponsorships and your help we will continue to provide scholarships and expand our program services. We are still not where we want to be as an organization but with your help we will get there.

I thank you for your continued support to ASPIRA of New Jersey, to our board and most of all to our youth in need. This year I am proud to have taken part in the planning committee's choices for recognition and award to individuals for their outstanding commitment to education and community activities:

Ms. Miryam (Gaby) Rinkerman, Director, Paterson Community Technology Center  
Ms. Alcelia Goñez, Volunteer, ASPIRA of New Jersey in Vineland

In celebrating our accomplishments, we acknowledge the contributions that you have made to our success. We also acknowledge that the minority dropout rates still remain high and the graduation rates need to be higher. Our commitment is to continue addressing these issues as well as other issues relevant to our educational mission.

Once again, thank you for participating at our luncheon and I look forward to seeing you in the near future.

Sincerely,

*Ivan Quervalú*

Ivan Quervalú, Ph.D., MSW



# ASPIRA, Inc. OF NEW JERSEY

ESSEX COUNTY CENTER  
390 BROAD STREET, NEWARK, NEW JERSEY 07104

PHONE (973) 484-7554  
FAX (973) 484-0184

March 21, 2007

Dear Friends, Students and ASPIRA Supporters:

On behalf of the Board of Directors, our President and Chief Executive Officer, and the staff of ASPIRA, Inc. of New Jersey, we thank you for your participation at our 30<sup>th</sup> Annual Luncheon and for your support throughout the year.

Your presence today is evidence of your commitment and concern for the children and youth we service in New Jersey. It is also an expression of the confidence about the ASPIRA leadership development and its impact on those we serve.

Your support of ASPIRA, Inc. of New Jersey along with the assistance we receive from our state's Board of Education, private and public corporate companies, community agencies and other individual sponsorships makes possible the various activities offered throughout our ASPIRA programs.

In celebrating our 30<sup>th</sup> Annual Luncheon we acknowledge the contributions not only of our awardees but also our friends, students, and supporters. Thank you.

Sincerely,

*Carlos J. Alma*

Carlos J. Alma  
Chairperson  
Board of Directors

**30<sup>th</sup> Annual Planning  
Committee**

**Mercedes Valle, Ed.D.**  
Committee Chairperson  
Treasurer, Board of Directors  
ASPIRA Inc. of New Jersey

**Carmen Nazario**  
Office Administrator  
Luncheon Coordinator

**Ivan Quervalú, Ph.D., MSW**  
President and CEO

**Wanda Ortiz**  
Vice-President of Programs

**Reinaldo Santiago**  
Northern Regional Director

**Teresa Torres**  
Southern Regional Director

**Yocasta Ramos**  
Director, Talent Search Program

**Mary Gonzalez**  
Assistant Fiscal Officer

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Wanda Ortiz	Vice President of Programs
Carmen Nazario	Office Administrator
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Mary Gonzalez	Assistant Fiscal Officer
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#### Northern Region

##### Essex County Center

390 Broad Street  
Newark, New Jersey 07104

Reinaldo Santiago	Northern Regional Director
Juan Colon	Program Coordinator, Juvenile Justice
Cristina Acevedo	Leadership Academic Advisor
Gamaliel Guardia	Leadership Academic Advisor
Alex Sanchez	Leadership Academic Advisor
Vilma Cortina	APEX Coordinator

##### Hudson County Center

777 Bergen Avenue, Suite 217  
Jersey City, New Jersey 07302  
Tel. 201-434-4081 Fax 201-434-0871

Edna Carolina Zalenski	Leadership Academic Advisor
Miriam Gonzalez	Family Friendly Instructor
Sonia Jusino Lovatt	Family Friendly Tutor
Edwin Parras	Family Friendly Tutor

**Long Branch** Middle School and High School  
Francisco Rosas

Leadership Academic Advisor

**New Brunswick** High School  
Vacant

Leadership Academic Advisor

## Southern Region

### Cumberland County Center

**716 East Woods St. Front  
Vineland, New Jersey 08360  
Tel. 856-563-0007 Fax 856-563-1407**

Teresa Torres -----	Southern Regional Director
Dennis Valentin-----	Work Readiness/Leadership Advisor
Theresa Pinto-----	Community Advocate
Cynthia Rivera-----	APEX Coordinator (PT)

### Camden County Center

**423 Market Street  
Camden, New Jersey 08105  
Tel. 856-964-9115 Fax 856-964-2339**

Yocasta Ramos-----	Talent Search Director
Iris Lorenzo-----	Talent Search Secretary
Susana Medina-----	Family Friendly Tutor
Majorie Dorvilus-----	Talent Search Academic Advisor
Luz Mojica-----	Family Friendly Head Teacher
Waleska Rivera-----	Family Friendly Teacher Aide
Sheila Ramos-----	Talent Search Academic Advisor
Ana Rivera-Castro-----	Family Friendly Teacher

### Atlantic County Center

**1 South New York Avenue  
Atlantic City, New Jersey  
Tel. 609-344-5881 Fax 609-344-5836**

Lucy Hernandez-----	Work Readiness Leadership Coor.
Iris Monclus-----	Community Advocate
Cynthia Rivera-----	APEX Coordinator (PT)



### Dance Troupe

Dance 1 Alex Sanchez choreographer for Dramatic Dance w th Iveth Pena

Dance 2 Patricia Irizary-Barreto, Director, and dancers from Rutgers University Raices de Mi Patria performing "El conde de Loiza" followed by la plena "Manana por la Manana"

Ana Ramos  
Frances Gratacos  
Estelle M. Rund az  
Ileana Perez  
Mehtza Crespo  
Karla Medoza  
Rosana Garafa s

Patricia Irizary Barreto and Alex Sanchez are ASPIRA instructors at Alexander Hamilton Middle School No. 72 and Mabel G. Holmes Middle School No. 77, in Elizabeth, NJ.

## *Luncheon Speaker*



**Jon S. Corzine  
Governor, State of New Jersey**

Governor Jon Corzine was born on January 1, 1947, and grew up on a small family farm in the central Illinois community of Willey's Station. His father farmed and sold insurance, his mother was a public school teacher. His interest in politics was forged in his farming community. It was there that he learned the meaning of hard work and the opportunities afforded by a strong education system.

Governor Corzine graduated Phi Beta Kappa from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign in 1969 and enlisted in the U.S. Marine Corps Reserves. He remained in the reserves until 1975, rising to the rank of sergeant in his infantry unit.

After his active duty in the Marine Corps, he began his career in finance, working as a portfolio analyst at the Continental Illinois National Bank in Chicago. He enrolled in the graduate business school of the University of Chicago in 1970, first attending classes at night. He received his MBA in 1973 and went to work at Bank One, a regional bank in Columbus, Ohio.

In 1975, Governor Corzine was recruited by Goldman Sachs, the New York investment firm, and he and his family moved to New Jersey. He was named a partner at Goldman Sachs in 1980, and became chairman and chief executive officer in 1994. He left Goldman Sachs in May 1999 after successfully converting the investment firm from a private partnership to a public company.

During Governor Corzine's leadership at Goldman Sachs, the business magazine Fortune named Goldman Sachs one of the 100 best companies to work for in America. The governor was named by Time magazine as one of the top 50 technology executives in the country in 1997.

As the chief executive officer at Goldman Sachs, Governor Corzine expanded the company's community outreach and philanthropic programs, establishing a company-wide service program in which employees volunteer on a regular basis in their communities. Also in 1997, Governor Corzine was the chairman of a presidential commission to study capital budgeting as a means of increasing federal investment in schools, technology, and infrastructure.

Jon Corzine was elected to the United States Senate in November 2000. During his time in the Senate, he focused on serving the state of New Jersey, applying his financial expertise to major economic and regulatory issues, and pushing a forward-looking, progressive agenda.

As Senator he sought new federal investments in New Jersey's transportation network, pursued new safeguards to protect chemical facilities against terrorist attack, introduced legislation to improve access to education and healthcare, fought for stronger environmental policies, and led the effort in Congress to crack down on corporate abuse.

In a major victory, the Senate adopted Governor Corzine's resolution declaring the need for new safeguards at the nation's vulnerable chemical plants. He also secured federal funding toward the construction of a second railroad tunnel underneath the Hudson River, long sought by New Jersey's congressional delegation, and won federal support for a wide variety of community and economic development projects throughout the state of New Jersey. In addition, to protect the environment and the economy along New Jersey's shore, Governor Corzine fought to prevent any oil or gas drilling off the coastline.

In 2005, Jon Corzine announced his candidacy for the governorship of New Jersey, promising to bring the same business practices and integrity that helped him run Goldman Sachs to state government. He built his campaign around his comprehensive ethics proposal, revamping the state's property tax system, building a stronger economy, and improving education and healthcare. Jon S. Corzine was sworn in as New Jersey's 54th Governor on January 17, 2006.



**T47**  
TELEMUNDO

**RAMON ZAYAS, ANCHOR, "NOTICIERO 47"**

**WEEKEND EDITION**

Ramon Zayas, a native of Puerto Rico, is the anchor of the weekend edition of WNJU's "Noticiero 47 at 6 & 11pm". In addition, he is an award winning reporter, and files investigative and community reports for the station's various newscasts.

Zayas joined Telemundo in December of 2002 from WXTV/Univis on 41 where he anchored "Al Despertar", the early morning news edition since 1999. Throughout his career, Mr. Zayas has demonstrated a valuable versatility both in Sports and News. Prior to his arrival in New York, Zayas was a Sports Anchor for "Telenencias", a CBS owned and operated 24 hour news channel with coverage to all Latin America. He has been a Boxing Analyst/Commentator, and has done live coverage of major sporting events, such as Championship Boxing, The World Cup and the Olympics.

His broadcasting career was launched in 1986 as a Radio Producer and later Announcer for various Spanish radio stations in Northern California. He was only 17 years of age, and was pursuing a degree in Journalism and Radio/Television Production at San Jose State University. He later concluded his education at San Francisco State University.

His professional introduction to television started as a Sports Anchor for Telemundo's KSTS in San Jose, California in 1989. Two years later, he accepted a position as News Bureau Chief for Univision's KDTV in San Francisco where he remained until Telemundo hired him as a Producer and Reporter for the Network's News Magazine "Ocurrió Así" in Miami.

Awarded with a prestigious Emmy for the production and report of an investigative series on youth gangs in San Antonio, Mr. Zayas has since earned several other nominations for this award. He is also an accomplished Classical Guitarist, and is the proud father of Nicole and Andres Zayas.



*30<sup>th</sup> Annual ASPIRA Luncheon  
Community Service Award*

*Presented to*

**Miryam (Gaby) Rinkerman**

*For Her Dedication and Continued Support  
In Conceptualizing and Spearheading Community Services  
And Other Programmatic Initiatives to Latino Youth and Adults*

*ASPIRA Inc. of New Jersey  
March 21, 2007*



*30<sup>th</sup> Annual ASPIRA Luncheon  
Volunteer Service Award*

*Presented to*

**Alcelia Goñez**

*For Her Continued Support  
As Volunteer for ASPIRA of New Jersey And For  
Her Dedication Regarding Cancer Awareness  
In Our Community*

*ASPIRA Inc. of New Jersey  
March 21, 2007*



## 2007 Scholarships Recipients

### **Dr. Antonia Pantoja Founder's Scholarships**

(2 at \$1,500)

- Deldaliza Gerez- William Dickinson High School- Jersey City
- Say S.-fa- Jersey City- William Dickinson High School- Jersey City

### **Jose Ginarte Scholarship Fund** (2 at \$2,500)

- Katherine Arauz- Technology High School, Newark, NJ
- Michael Tejada- Technology High School-Newark, NJ

### **First Bank Americano and First American Insurance Scholarship Fund**

(2 at \$2,500)

- Jennifer Castro-Technology High School-Newark, NJ
- Orlando Valle Jr - Technology High School-Newark, NJ

### **McDonalds-HACER Program**

(2 at \$2,500)

- Juan Cisneros- Technology High School-Newark, NJ
- Roberto Rodriguez - Vineland High School-Vineland, NJ

### **Robert Santana Charity Gift Funds**

(4 year scholarship at \$2,000)

- Victoria Crespo- Ferris High School- Jersey City

### **Pepsi Cola Scholarship**

(5 at \$1,000.00 each)

- Joseph Rios- John F. Kennedy High School- Paterson, NJ
- Erika Rozon- Barringer High School-Newark, NJ
- Luis Molina- Woodrow Wilson High School- Camden, NJ
- Gilberto Roman- Vineland High School- Vineland, NJ
- Ronald Villatoro- Long Branch High School- Long Branch, NJ

### **International Student Scholarship**

(2 at \$1,000.00 each)

- Lorena C. Pereira- Long Branch High School-Long Branch, NJ
- Ilana Romero- Woodrow Wilson High School-Camden, NJ

### **Alfredo Santiago Scholarship**

(1 at \$1,000.00 each)

- Denise Martinez- Woodrow Wilson High School- Camden, NJ

### **Academic Excellence Scholarships**

(6 at \$ 500.00 each)

- Priscilla Gonzalez- Barringer High School- Newark, NJ
- Guadalupe Islas-James J. Ferris High School- Jersey City, NJ
- Irene Chacon- William L. Dickinson High School- Jersey City, NJ
- Oscar David Cortes-Vineyard High School- Vineland, NJ
- Victor A. Mazon- Vineland High School- Vineland, NJ
- Yosmary Moreno- Barringer High School- Newark, NJ



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# **BEST WISHES**

to the

## **ASPIRA, INC. OF NEW JERSEY**

on its

**30th Annual Luncheon  
Commemoration  
March 21, 2007**



It is a pleasure to congratulate ASPIRA, Inc. of New Jersey on its 30<sup>th</sup> Annual Luncheon, being held here in Newark. For decades, ASPIRA's dedicated team has provided empowerment and education to New Jersey's Puerto Rican and Latino youth, bringing them the tools they need to achieve personal success in adult life. ASPIRA has a magnificent past, a superb present, and a glorious future.

**CORY A. BOOKER, MAYOR  
NEWARK, NEW JERSEY**



---

**iNada tan cerca  
te llevará tan lejos!**

---

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THE 30TH ANNUAL ASPIRA LUNCHEON

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Barbara Keshishian  
Wendell Steinhardt  
Robert Bonazzi:

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**njea**



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***Best Wishes to Aspira, Inc. of New Jersey  
for a Successful Luncheon!***

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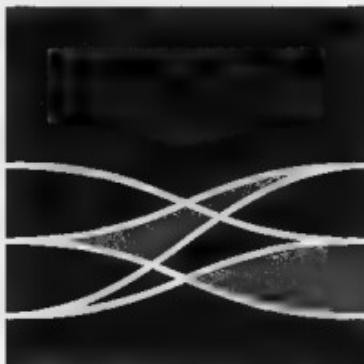
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Congratulations

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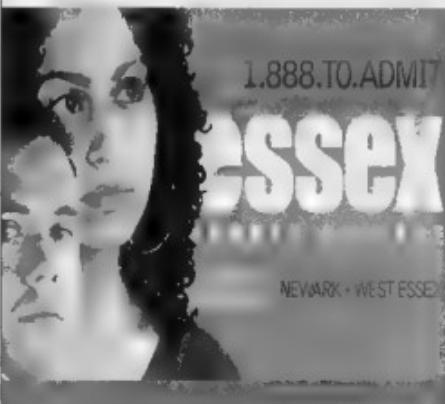
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